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Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society.

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1830

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society:

READ AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BOSTON.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 16, 1830.

TOGETHER WITH

THE SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CITY MISSIONARY,

AND

THE TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

BOSTON:—PUTNAM & HUNT.

1830.

REPORT.

14549 —

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society have attended, during the year just elapsed, to the various interests depending upon them, or falling within their notice. They have been obliged, however, greatly to limit their purposes of charity, by the want of means to carry them into execution. The measures adopted for procuring funds, immediately after the last annual meeting, were almost wholly unsuccessful—and the returns from auxiliary societies, the Directors regret to state, have fallen short of the amount received the last year, by *more than one fourth.* There is little doubt that these deficiences are chiefly to be attributed to the unexampled depression of business, and of credit, during the year last past—but a part must also be ascribed to a relaxation of effort. In the promotion of the interests of the Christian religion, as in the adoption of its principles, *he that putteth his hand to the plough must not look back.* The exertions of former years, and the success which crowned them, do but mock and up-

braid us in the subsequent failure to pursue and to secure them. It were far better for us not to have created hopes, than to desert them before they have been realized. The slowest advancement, if steady and permanent, is far more to be desired than occasional impulses of rapid acceleration. The Board of Directors are disposed to dwell the longer on this subject, because they believe that its importance has not been duly appreciated by Churchmen. What is needed for the success of our institutions, one and all, is not the great, and therefore rare, contributions of the many, but the continued accumulation of small contributions from all. To the auxiliaries in the several parishes, the Board must continue to look for an important portion of the Society's income. It is proper also to state that the expenses incurred in the publication of two cheap editions of the Book of Common Prayer have tended to produce, in part, the present deficiency in the funds of the Society. The sales of the Prayer Book, however, are already beginning to yield an income to the Society, and, when the debts now due on account of it shall be discharged, will constitute an important source of revenue, at the same time that a supply of cheap, correct and beautiful copies of the formularies of the Church is, by the adoption of stereotype plates, permanently insured.

In the course of the last winter, the wants of the Society having been generally made known, and very strongly felt, a meeting of gentlemen interested in the subject was held in Boston ; the result of whose deliberations was the appointment of a Committee to apply for subscriptions and donations in the congregations in that city. By their recommendation, a meeting of the Socie-

ty was called, for the purpose of so modifying the conditions of admission to membership, that *contributions, to whatever amount, should give a title to its privileges.* Thus authorized, the Committee prepared an address, which was distributed in the Churches in Boston; and collections made, by personal application, to the amount of $411,48. The sum, though smaller than our necessities required, presents, when added to the subscription made for the express purpose of supporting the Domestic Missionary, and the contribution of the auxiliary of Christ Church, an aggregate of nearly $690 for missionary purposes, within the diocese, raised in this city during the past year. The Board of Directors by no means encourage the idea that such amount is the proper quota of the Episcopalians of Boston to the relief of their less favored brethren. It is mentioned only as an encouragement to the belief that whenever proper subjects of cultivation are presented fairly and strongly to the minds and hearts of Churchmen, they will ensure their liberal bounty.

The Board of Directors have felt themselves bound, in the depressed state of the Treasury, to abstain from creating, in the feeble parishes, expectations of aid which might not be realized. They have indeed been able to do little more than comply with obligations actually incurred. Under this head has been the appropriation of $200 voted, during the former year, to the parish at Otis, and to be continued for two years, on condition that, within that time, a Church edifice should be completed—a condition which, we are happy to say, will, with the divine blessing, be speedily redeemed. To the Church in South Boston, then apparently at a crisis in its affairs,

the sum of $150 was voted, on condition that the valuable services of the present Rector should be secured. His report, lately received, gives warrant for the conviction that the Society's purposes will be very happily answered, in the revival, and entire, and permanent establishment of that interesting parish. In regard to the parishes of Leicester, Northampton, Bridgewater, Hanover, Marshfield, and Sutton, formerly receiving, and still needing, aid from the Society, the Board have thus far been able to do nothing. The little flock at Ashfield have lately renewed their very modest petition for assistance; and an opening most decidedly favorable for the establishment of the Church at Pittsfield, only wants the assurance of the Society's encouragement to be secured. From these interesting and most deserving claims, it is deeply painful to the Board to be obliged to withhold the small pittance which would effectually relieve them. And greatly is this painful feeling increased by the knowledge, that in several cases, the clergy of these struggling parishes have borne in silence the severest privations, rather than prefer their petition under the embarrassed circumstances of the Society. Be assured, brethren of the Church, it is to pamper no luxurious indolence, that we ask to be the almoners of your bounty. The actual necessities of a clergy, unsurpassed in diligence, fidelity, and self-denial, are the arguments on which our applications are all founded, and, in the strength of which, they ought to be irresistible. Notwithstanding the existence of circumstances so depressing, it is but truth to say, that at no time have our parishes, spiritually regarded, been more flourishing, or has the prosperity of our Zion called on us more earnestly to *thank God, and take courage!*

At the last annual meeting, the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Eaton, to be the Society's domestic missionary in Boston was announced, with the gratifying intelligence of his acceptance. His first semi-annual Report has been already printed, and distributed in the Churches. The Report of his full year's labors is just received; and will exhibit far better than any remarks of ours, the state of that most interesting Mission. It is for the members of that Church, of which we are permitted to be the honored servants, to say whether these holy purposes of charity, so clearly our duty, and their own reward, shall falter and fail—nay, whether this very Mission to the poor in our city, which has been so prosperously begun, and so highly blessed, shall be abandoned—or, whether they shall all go on, to the mitigation of misery, and the reformation of vice, to the edification of men, and the glory of God. Remember, brethren, if they go on, it must be by the exertion of your means. God works by instruments. He offers to us now the honor and the happiness of being coworkers with him in the salvation of souls. He offers us the consecration of our substance, of our abilities, of our lives, by our devotion of them to his service. Let us not decline so high an honor, and so great a happiness. Let it be for the praise of the Lord now, as it was in Israel's ancient day, that *the people willingly offered themselves.* Let us come forward with the free-will bounty of our hearts, that from the fountain of the sanctuary streams may again flow out, that shall make glad the city of our God.

For the Board of Directors.

G. W. DOANE, *Corresponding Secr'y.*

REV. DR. EATON'S

SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

FROM NOVEMBER 1829 TO MAY 1830.

TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS EPISCOPAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Gentlemen:

It is no less my pleasure than my duty to apprize you of the progress of the interesting Mission, which, through your indulgence, has been committed to my charge. In tracing this progress, you will anticipate me in the devout and grateful recognition of His guidance and blessing, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; and who, in his inscrutable wisdom, often chooses the weak things of the world, to confound the things that are mighty.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

This department of Missionary labor, I regard with peculiar interest. It is from the rising generation that we have most to hope, and most to fear. From seed sown in spring, we are encouraged to expect the most abundant harvest. The fearful consequences resulting

from the neglect of this precious season, are too obvious to need description. Man is every thing, or nothing ; a blessing, or a scourge; an angel of light, or a fiend of darkness, according to the education he receives. Left to himself, the imagination of his heart is evil from his youth ; and out of the evil treasure of his heart he bringeth forth evil things. Trained from infancy in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, he becomes, under the continual dew of the divine blessing, like a tree planted by the water side, that will bring forth his fruit in due season ; his leaf also shall not wither ; and look, whatsoever he doeth, it shall prosper. The institution of Sunday Schools forms a new era in the history of moral and religious improvement, and marks the dawn of a brighter day. The efficiency of these nurseries of virtue and piety, in checking the progress of ignorance and vice, and n advancing the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, is acknowledged by all, who attentively notice their operations. Already has the wilderness and the solitary place been glad for them; and the desert has rejoiced and blossomed as the rose. Already has been realized that, which is written ; "out of the mouth of babes and sucklings Thou hast ordained strength."

The Sunday School, organized in the Missionary Chapel, continues to prosper. During the last six months, eighty new scholars have been admitted, making the whole number registered, two hundred and fifty-five. The average attendance has been eighty. There are now belonging to the school, as nearly as can be ascertained, one hundred and sixty, under the care of a Superintendent, assisted by seven gentlemen, and six ladies. The progress of the children, and their general deportment,

have been uniformly and highly satisfactory. They are respectful and obedient to their teachers, and appear to take great delight in the exercises of the school. Nor is their behaviour less commendable during the season of public worship. Considering their number, ages, (many of them under four) and ordinary habits, it is thought not a little remarkable, that not a single occurrence has taken place, that has occasioned any material interruption or disturbance in the celebration of divine service. On the contrary, a large portion of them manifest an increasing interest in the service, and join in it with exemplary seriousness and propriety. On several of the elder scholars, the instruction of the school, and the ministrations of the Chapel, appear to have exerted a transforming influence. A visible change has taken place in their character and conduct. The levity, common to youth, has been succeeded by the sedateness of maturer years, and the voice of instruction no longer falls upon inattentive ears. The language of hope respecting them, is, they are not far from the kingdom of heaven.

With a view to counteract in the children of the school that selfishness, which is so prominent a characteristic of human nature, and which manifests itself in a thousand forms, even in infancy and childhood, and to cherish among them a spirit of sympathy and benevolence, they have been encouraged to bring their weekly offerings for the relief of the poor. For this purpose, a box was provided early in January, for the reception of their alms ; since which nearly two dollars have been contributed. This sum, with other means furnished for the same purpose, has been expended in clothing for the destitute members of the school ; thus exhibiting a practical recognition of

the inspired maxim, that when one member suffers, all the members should suffer with it. With habits of benevolence, have been associated the duties of industry and economy. To promote these objects, several ladies have opened a school in the Chapel, on the afternoon of Wednesday, in which the female children are taught the use of the needle, and particularly the art of mending; an art, which, if better understood, and more generally practised by the female poor, would greatly contribute to their interest and comfort. A part of the wise man's masterly description of a virtuous woman is, that she looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

Of the interesting school in Pitts Court, the Superintendent has obligingly furnished the following statement.

"The whole number of scholars on the roll from the commencement of the school, is 125: but at the close of the year, which ended with September, and as stated in he annual report, only 50 were considered as belonging to it. The whole number now in occasional or regular attendance, is about 60; but there are seldom more than 30 present at one time. During six months, which have elapsed since our first year expired, 18 scholars have left the school; 4 of whom have removed out of the City, or to an inconvenient distance in it; 7 have joined other Sunday Schools; and 7 have left for causes unknown. One scholar has died, being the first death which has taken place in this school since its commencement. 15 new scholars have joined the school, and 9, who formerly attended, and whose names had been marked off the roll, have returned.

"Of the teachers, 4 have relinquished their classes, in

consequence of ill health, or change of residence; and an equal number have readily filled their places. The whole number of teachers, is now 12. The Superintendent takes great pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and fidelity of his associate teachers, and to the manifest improvement of the children under their immediate charge.

"We continue to take all our lessons, and all our reading, which is connected with the general exercises, directly from the Scriptures; and we feel more and more satisfied, that such a course tends greatly, both to a *knowledge* and *love* of God's word. We are aware that many, who take a deep interest in the prosperity of Sunday Schools, consider simple religious story books better adapted to the comprehension of children than the Bible. But our experience has fully persuaded us to a contrary opinion; and we have found that, not only do our scholars manifest an improvement in scriptural knowledge, but that they seem to take great pleasure in listening to the interesting histories, remarkable events, astonishing miracles, and plain commands, which abound in the Old and New Testament. It is also to be remembered, that many of the most interesting story books, the object of which is to promote the growth of morality and religion in the youthful mind, are not founded on *fact;* and as it is not unusual for children, after hearing or reading an interesting memoir, to ask whether it be true, the effect of an imaginary effort in such a case proves worse than useless. In many of the little publications, intended for the use of children, and which, as *library* books, are highly to be valued, frequent allusion is made to the Bible, and in some, quotations from it are to be found on

almost every page ; it may, therefore, with great propriety, be asked, how it is possible for children to comprehend and profit by such allusions or quotations, without some early and definite knowledge of this 'Book of Books.' We also prefer that the lessons should be committed to memory from the book itself, rather than to make use of detached sheets for that purpose ; it being, we think, desirable, that not even the most simple means should be neglected, which will tend in any way to lead children to reverence that inspired volume, which we wish them to take for their companion and guide through life.

"Our prospects encourage us to go on in this work ; and we cannot but hope, that God will bless our feeble exertions to promote the knowledge and influence of his holy name and word in this our humble station."

As often as I have had an opportunity of visiting this school, I have been highly gratified with the respectful and orderly deportment of the scholars, and the lively interest they have evinced in the various exercises in which they have engaged. Measures are maturing, to induce the children, with the exception of those who are required by their parents to go elsewhere, to attend public worship at the Chapel. This arrangement has for some time been in contemplation, but want of room, rendered it, till recently, impracticable.

ATTENDANCE ON PUBLIC WORSHIP.

In my first semi-annual report, it was stated that the Chapel was then full ; consequently no considerable increase of the congregation could reasonably be expected, till a larger hall could be obtained. The existence of the

Chapel, however, has become more extensively known and has often been so much crowded, as to render it uncomfortable to the worshippers. The unavoidable result has been, that many have been prevented from attending. Our worshipping assemblies, as far as respects the outward man, have uniformly been characterized by that seriousness and devotion, which our religious solemnities are calculated to inspire. Some who brought with them deep-rooted prejudices against our mode of worship, are now among its warmest admirers; and the habit of audibly joining in the service, is every day becoming more general. To those who unite a pure heart with an humble voice, our Chapel is indeed an house of prayer; where, in obedience to the exhortation of the Psalmist, they worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. How far the word preached has been mixed with faith in those who heard it; to what extent the hearers have been doers of the word, and consequently blessed in their deed, will be, among the disclosures of that day, when every work will be brought into judgment with every secret thing. There are probably few preachers, who have not, at times, been constrained to exclaim, in the language of the Prophet, "Who hath believed our report?" and to weep over apparently unprofitable labours. But want of visible success impairs not the validity, nor the force of the divine mandate, "Preach the gospel to every creature." Amidst the greatest discouragements, the path of duty is plain. In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good. And to cheer the sinking heart, and animate the fainting spirit, a ray of hope emanates from the gracious promise,

as the rain cometh down and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater; so shall my word be, that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void; but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

To obviate the inconvenience, arising from the smallness of our Chapel, and the better to accommodate our growing congregation, a much larger hall has been procured, at No. 46 Washington street, which we occupied on the first Sunday in May. This hall is, in all respects, preferable to the other, and better adapted to the purposes both of our Sunday School, and public worship. It has been fitted up with a reading desk, an altar, and suitable benches for the worshippers. It will accommodate, it is supposed, about 400 persons; and from present appearances, we are encouraged to hope that it will soon be filled. The number of communicants is now about 60. Since my last report, I have administered the ordinance of baptism to one adult, and 23 children; married 7 couple, and attended 8 funerals.

SUNDAY EVENING LECTURE.

Desirous of cultivating a more intimate acquaintance with the people of my charge, than can be realized in the ordinary ministrations of the Chapel, and wishing particularly to call the attention of the young to the subject of confirmation, and to aid them in preparing for the reception of that sacred rite, I commenced, early in January last, a course of familiar lectures at my house, on Sunday evening, to which all were invited, who might be inclined

to attend. The proposal was favorably received. The average attendance has been from 40 to 50, about half of whom are youth, from 12 to 20 years of age. From the apparent seriousness and devotion, which have marked these little assemblies, and from the general interest expressed, the hope is entertained, that our time has not been unprofitably spent. There are several candidates for confirmation, and the number, there is reason to believe, will soon be augmented.

PASTORAL VISITS.

My time, from Sunday to Sunday, is almost exclusively occupied in visiting the abodes of the poor, and in listening to their complaints at home. My visits continue to be received with great cordiality ; and, if I may judge by professions and appearances, I have reason to believe, with increasing interest and effect. The more familiar I become with the habits, feelings and necessities of those to whom I am sent, the stronger is the probability, that I shall be able to do them good ; that the counsels, admonitions, and instructions, administered to them, will be favorably received. Faithful are the wounds of a friend. Of the true shepherd it is said, when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice ; and a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him ; for they know not the voice of strangers. In my daily walks, I have frequent applications for Bibles, Testaments, Prayer Books, and Tracts of various kinds. Of these, however, I have had it in my power to distribute but few, owing to my limited means of obtaining them. Could I be furnished with a

more ample supply, I should indulge the hope that my visits might be rendered more acceptable and useful. Next to the Bible, there is perhaps no book more eminently adapted to impart instruction and comfort, especially to the sick and afflicted, than the Book of Common Prayer. To those, who are capable of appreciating its excellence, and have been taught to use it aright, it is a treasure of inestimable value. From the Bible we learn what religion is. By the Prayer Book we are taught how to practise it. By the perusal of the former, we learn how others served God. By using the latter, we serve him ourselves. The former points to brighter worlds; the latter takes us by the hand and conducts us thither. "If," says an ingenious writer, "I could personify the Bible, and the Book of Common Prayer, they would, like our first parents in Eden, mutually choose, and be delighted with each other; and for the same reason, because the one, though changed in features and in name, was taken out of, and is an help-meet for the other: and the Bible would say; This is now bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh; and could a voice from heaven be heard, concerning this union, it would be; Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

BENEVOLENT EFFORTS OF LADIES IN AID OF THE MISSION.

The interests of the Mission have been essentially promoted by the continued and persevering exertions of Ladies, in relieving the temporal wants of the destitute. Having been honored as the almoner of their bounty, and, on the failure of the resources committed to my trust, indulged the privilege of commending the necessitous to

their sympathy and compassion, my services have acquired a value in the estimation of the poor, which they could have derived from no other source. The messenger, who is commissioned to impart bread to the hungry, and clothing to the naked, will be highly esteemed for his work's sake. With this passport to their affections, he will be better able to awaken their attention to their spiritual necessities, and inspire them with a practical solicitude for the rich provision made for them in the gospel. It was by showing mercy to the bodies of men, that the Chief Shepherd often sought and found his way to their hearts. It was a multitude, who sought him, as he himself declares, not because they saw the miracles, but because they did eat of the loaves and were filled; to whom he addressed the precept of heavenly wisdom, "Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give unto you." "A minister's access to the indigent, sick and afflicted," it has been well remarked, "and consequently his opportunities of usefulness among them, often depends, in no small measure, upon his opportunities of relieving their temporal afflictions. The religious visit is seldom duly appreciated, unless it be closed with an act of pecuniary charity; for the lower classes of mankind have oftentimes little conception of disinterestedness; and can be brought to believe its existence, only when it presses upon them in the shape of temporal relief. A sacrifice of time, as a violence done to the feelings, have seldom much effect upon their mind. Prayers, and good wishes, and zeal for their eternal welfare, they think, cost nothing; but alms-giving opens the avenues of their hearts, and prepares the way for all the rest. They can-

not doubt that those are in earnest, of whose bounty they have received so sensible a demonstration."

It has been the lofty aim of the Ladies, who, with their characteristic kindness and ardour, have interested themselves in the success of the Mission, to render the aid, they have administered, subservient to the moral and religious improvement of the recipients. In this, it is believed, they have been eminently successful, as is apparent in the flourishing state of our Sunday School and congregation, as well as in the visible and salutary change, observable in the habitations, personal appearance, and deportment of families and individuals. Since the commencement of the Mission, in addition to supplies of fuel and food, particularly during the winter, they have distributed among various classes and descriptions of the poor, nearly a thousand articles of clothing.

To augment the value of their charity, and the more effectually to ensure the attainment of its object, several of the Ladies have found it convenient to visit in person the abodes of the poor. The beneficial effects of these visits have been obvious. They have operated as a check upon imposition and profligacy. They have prevented, in many instances, the perversion and abuse of the aid that has been bestowed. They have administered comfort to the sorrowful, cheered the desponding, and raised the dejected. In a word, they have manifestly contributed to mitigate the sufferings, to improve the condition, to elevate the views and the character of many, who seem to have excluded themselves from the pale of human sympathy and compassion. The salutary results of these visits of many, will, it is hoped, induce their continuance and extension, and stimulate others to go and do like-

wise. Thus will be rendered applicable to our age and country, what a distinguished ornament of her sex, and of human nature, has justly said of hers—that it is "the glory of our age, that among the most useful and zealous servants of our Divine Master, are to be found of devout and honorable women not a few. Ladies whose own education, not having been limited to the harp, and to the sketch book, though not unskilled in either, are competent to teach others, what themselves have been taught; who disdain not to be employed in the humblest affairs of Christian charity, to be found in the poorest cottage, at the bed-side of the sick and dying; whose daughters, if not the best *waltzers*, are the best *catechisers;* whose houses are houses of prayer, whose closets are the scene of devout meditation; who, not contented with the stinted, modish measure, of a single attendance on public worship, so contrive to render the hours of repast, subservient to those of duty, as to make a second visit to the temple of their God; and who endeavor to retain the odour of sanctity shed on the sacred day, through the duties of the week."

PROSPECTS OF THE MISSION.

The Mission must be regarded as yet in its infancy. The first fruits only have been gathered; from these we are encouraged to anticipate, under the Divine auspices, an abundant harvest. I have as yet been able to explore but a small portion of the interesting field in which I have been appointed to labor. There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed. Many are still wandering upon the mountains, and in the valleys, as sheep having no shep-

herd. It is not the will of our heavenly Father that one of them should perish. They are the purchase of the Saviour's blood. They are among the poor, to whom he would have his gospel preached. He would have us gather them into his fold, that they may be saved through him forever. What remains, then, but that we persevere in this work of faith, and labor of love; that while we devoutly offer at the throne of the heavenly grace our daily petitions, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven," we cherish a spirit, and put forth efforts in accordance with our prayers.

Thus may we contribute to the advancement of the period, when, in fulfilment of the prophetic word, the people shall be all righteous, and help to realize the vision of the Apocalypse: "Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."

Very respectfully,

A. EATON.

Boston, May, 1830.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

The Treasurer's annual reports for the two years, commencing June 1827 and ending June 1829, not having been printed heretofore, the following abstracts from the same are presented in accordance with the directions of the Executive Committee.

From June 1827 *to June* 1828.

CREDIT.

By Cash of annual subscribers,			139 00
" Donations,			62 80
" Collection at the annual meeting at St. Paul's Church,			78 00
" Do. for Prayer Books and Tracts,			182 83
" Do. Ladies in Lowell, to constitute Rev. T. Edson a life member,			40 00
" Do. Ladies in South Boston, to constitute Rev. J. L. Blake a life member,			40 00
" Do. Charity Box, by hand of Rev. A. Eaton,			4 00
" Do. Auxiliary Societies, as follows:			
St. Peter's Church, Salem,		55 00	
St. Paul's " Newburyport,		25 00	
St. John's " Ashfield,		3 60	
Christ " Quincy,		15 00	
St. Michael's " Marblehead,		26 00	
St. Paul's " Dedham,		21 50	
Christ " Boston,		59 50	
St. Mary's " Newton,		25 00	
			230 60
" Do. Interest on Permanent Fund, &c.			20 96
" Do. contributed for the special purpose of supporting a Missionary to labor among the poor in this City,			375 50
" Do. contributed for the purchase of a set of sterotype plates for an octavo edition of the Prayer Book,			501 50
" Balance of old account,			240 70
" Amount of Permanent Fund,			270 00
			$2,185 89

DEBIT.

Cash paid expense of annual meeting,			6 00
" Do. Rev. J. Muenscher for missionary services at Leicester,			100 00
" Do. Rev. B. C. C. Parker	do.	at Lenox,	150 00
" Do. Rev. Mr. Tappan	do.	Bridgewater,	50 00
" Do. do. do.	do	Hopkinton,	10 00
" Do. Rev. Mr. Leonard	do.	Marblehead,	37 50
" Do. Rev. B. C. Cutler	do.	Hingham,	20 00
" Do. Rev. Calvin Wolcott	do.	Marshfield,	50 00
" Do. Rev. J. L. Blake	do.	South Boston,	75 00
" Do. Rev. D. L. Goodwin	do.	Sutton,	50 00
" Do. printing 500 copies annual report,			35 20
" Do. 100 Prayer Books,			29 15
" Do. do. Prayer Book Circular,			10 00
" Do. sundry expenses,			2 19
" Amonnt of Permanent Fund,			350 00
" Balance to new account,			1210 85
			$2,185 89

Errors Excepted, June 17, 1828.

B. HOWARD, *Treasurer.*

From June 1828 *to June* 1829.

CREDIT.

By balance of old account, appropriated as follows:		
Missionary among the poor in Boston,	375 50	
Prayer Book Plates,	501 50	
General purposes,	333 85	
		1210 85
" Amount Permanent Fund,		350 00
" Donations on account of the Prayer Book,		126 00
" On account of sales of Prayer Book,		200 00
" Collection at the annual meeting at St. Paul's Church,		88 15
" Donations for general purposes,		454 00
" Do. for Sunday School in Pitts Court,		20 00
" Do. interest on Permanent Fund, sale of refuse paper, &c.		57 99
Amount carried forward,		$2506 99

By amount brought forward, - - - - - -				$2506 99
" Do. Auxiliary Societies, as follows:				
St. Peter's Church,	Salem, -	103 70		
Trinity "	Bridgewater,	8 50		
St. Ann's "	Lowell, -	50 00		
Christ "	Quincy, to constitute Rev. B. C. Cutler a life member,	40 00		
Christ "	Lenox, -	120 00		
Christ "	Leicester, -	8 50		
St. Michael's "	Marblehead,	25 00		
Christ "	Boston, -	51 50		
St. Paul's "	Dedham, -	21 70		
St. Mary's "	Newton, -	25 00		
			453 90	
				$2960 89

DEBIT.

Cash paid expense annual meeting, - - - - -			10 00
Do.	Stereotype plates complete for printing an octavo Prayer Book,		1038 48
Do.	Copper plates for do. - - - -		87 93
Do.	Sunday School in Pitts Court, - - -		30 00
Do.	Rev. J. M. Tappan, for missionary services at Hopkinton,		75 00
Do.	Rev. J. West, do. at Taunton, -		250 00
Do.	Rev. B. C. C. Parker, do. Lenox, - -		75 00
Do.	Rev. C. Wolcott, do. Marshfield, -		65 00
Do.	Rev. D. L. B. Goodwin, do. Sutton, - -		100 00
Do.	Rev. J. L. Blake, do South Boston, -		75 00
Do.	N. Hale's bill printing Prayer Books, -		252 17
Do.	C. Stimpson, Jr. bill binding do. - - -		97 50
Do.	Printing circulars, notices, &c. - - -		21 45
Do.	Prayer Books for the Missionary Chapel, -		10 42
Do.	Part of Grant & Daniell's bill of paper for the Prayer Book,		390 00
Do.	Postages, - - - - - - - -		3 00
Amount of Permanent Fund, in 5 shares Boston Bank stock, at $75 each,			375 00
Balance on hand, - - - - - - - - -			4 94
			$2960 89

Errors Excepted, June 15, 1829.

B. HOWARD, *Treasurer.*

From June 1829 *to June* 1830.

CREDIT.

By balance of old account,				4 94
" Amount received from Auxiliary Societies, as follows:				
St. Paul's Church, Newburyport,		30 00		
St. Ann's " Lowell,		12 50		
St. John's " Northampton,		10 00		
Trinity " Bridgewater,		7 10		
Christ " Quincy,		11 50		
Christ " Boston, to constitute Rev. Wm. Croswell a life member,		40 00		
Christ " Lenox,		100 00		
St. Paul's " Dedham,		16 08		
St. Peter's " Salem,		46 10		
St. Mary's " Newton,		25 00		
			298 28	
" Collection at the annual meeting at St. Paul's Church,			70 10	
" An individual, being 'part of the avails of a particular concern devoted to this purpose,'			6 00	
" A lady, 'who freely gave what she could,'			1 00	
" Sundry donations, &c.			4 45	
" Proceeds of 5 shares in the Boston Bank, being the Permanent Fund—the same having been invested in the Prayer Book stereotype plates			381 88	
" S. H. Parker, on account of sales of Prayer Book,			150 00	
" Collected among the congregation of St. Paul's Church, Boston, by				
Mrs. G. W. Fling,		30 00		
Miss M. H. Oakes,		8 25		
G. W. Fling,		106 00		
E. D. Peters,		26 00		
G. W. Pollock,		45 35		
G. W. Lloyd,		20 00		
F. E. White,		9 25		
			244 85	
" Do. Trinity Church, Boston:				
E. H. Robbins,		71 00		
Dr. Townsend,		49 00		
S. H. Parker,		13 88		
T. D. Parker,		32 75		
			166 63	
Amount carried forward,			$1328 13	

By Amount brought forward, - - -		1328 13
" Rev. E. M. P. Wells, of which the sum of $10 67 was contributed by the Juveniles at the House of Reformation under his care,		34 17
" Subscribers for the support of Rev. Dr. Eaton as Domestic Missionary in this city,		180 50
		$1542 80

DEBIT.

Paid expense of annual meeting, - - - - -		13 25
" Rev. Joseph Muenscher, on account of services at Northampton,		100 00
" Rev. B. C. C. Parker, do. at Lenox, - -		250 00
" Rev. J. L. Blake, do. at South Boston, -		150 00
" Rev. Dr. Eaton, in part of the salary due him, as Domestic Missionary in this City,		150 00
" Rent of the Missionary Chapel in Boston, - -		60 25
" J. F. Newton, for services at the Chapel, - -		19 00
" Fitting seats for same, - - - - - - -		54 00
" Printing Dr. Eaton's semi-annual Report, - -		33 22
" Appropriated to the Sunday School in Pitts Court,		25 00
" Interest, postages, and other items, - - -		18 52
" Balance of Grant & Daniell's bill of paper for the Prayer Book,		236 87
" Do. N. Hale's do. for printing Prayer Books from the stereotype plates belonging to the Society,		175 80
Balance on hand, - - - - - - - - - -		256 89
		$1542 80

Errors Excepted, Boston June 16, 1830.

B. HOWARD, *Treasurer.*

P. S. The following outstandings against the Society need immediate settlement.

Balance due	Rev. Dr. Eaton,	- - -	350 00
" "	to other Missionaries,	- -	250 00
" "	on account of paper for Prayer Book,		600 00

The last mentioned demand will probably be liquidated in the course of a few months, by the proceeds of Prayer Books now on sale, under the care and direction of Mr. S. H. Parker, 164, Washington Street, agent for that purpose ; but to meet the two first named claims, together with the expenditures necessary to carry on and extend the operations of the Society the ensuing year, *immediate* and *liberal* pecuniary aid is greatly needed.

☞ *The payment of any sum, however small, will constitute the donor a member of the Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society, for the current year, and will be received by the Treasurer at No.* 4 *Kingston Street, or at No.* 16 *Central Wharf.—Applications for aid, Missionaries' Reports, and all other communications are to be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary.*

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING JUNE 16, 1830.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, D. D., *ex officio.*

VICE PRESIDENTS.

The Rev. Asa Eaton, D. D.—John C. Warren, M. D. The Rev. Theodore Edson.

SECRETARIES.

James C. Dunn, *Rec. Sec.*—The Rev. Wm. Croswell, *Cor. Sec.*

TREASURER.

Benjamin Howard.

DIRECTORS.

The Officers above mentioned,—The Rev. George W. Doane,—The Rev. John L. Blake,—The Rev. Alonzo Potter.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Rev. Alonzo Potter, *Chairman*,—Samuel D. Parker, Esq.—Enoch Hale, M. D.—The Rev. G. W. Doane,—The Corresponding Secretary and the Treasurer.

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

Christ Church, Boston—St. Matthew's Church, South Boston—St. Peter's Church, Salem—St. Michael's Church, Marblehead—St. Paul's Church, Newburyport—

St. Paul's Church, Dedham—Christ Church, Quincy—St. James' Church, Greenfield—Trinity Church, Lenox —St. John's Church, Ashfield—Trinity Church, Bridgewater—St. John's Church, Northampton—St. Ann's Church, Lowell—St. Mary's Church, Newton—Christ Church, Leicester—St. Andrew's Church, Hanover.

PARISHES NOW, OR FORMERLY, ASSISTED BY THE SOCIETY.

Christ Church, Quincy—St. Michael's Church, Marblehead—St. Andrew's Church, Hanover—Trinity Church, Bridgewater—St. Paul's Church, Marshfield—St. John's Church, Ashfield—Christ Church, Leicester —St. Matthew's Church, South Boston—St. John's Church, Sutton—St. Paul's Church, Hopkinton—St. Thomas' Church, Taunton—St. John's Church, Northampton—Trinity Church, Lenox—St. Paul's Church, Otis—Free Missionary Chapel, Boston.

CLERGYMEN NOW EMPLOYED, OR ASSISTED BY THE SOCIETY.

The Rev. Asa Eaton, D. D. Missionary in Boston,—The Rev. John L. Blake, South Boston,—The Rev. Lot Jones, Leicester,—The Rev. Joseph Muenscher, Northampton,—The Rev. B. C. C. Parker, Lenox and parts adjacent,—The Rev. Calvin Wolcott, Hanover,—Rev. Daniel B. Goodwin, Sutton,—Rev. Aaron Humphreys, Lanesborough.

7J 36. 20

1831.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS EPISCOPAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1831.

WITH THE

REPORT OF THE CITY MISSIONARY,

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS,

AND A

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS AND PATRONS.

BOSTON:
TIMPSON AND CLAPP, WASHINGTON STREET.
1831.

Freeman & Bolles, 110, Washington Street.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR, ENDING JUNE, 1832.

President.

Rt. Rev. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, D. D.

Vice Presidents.

Rev. ASA EATON, D. D. JOHN C. WARREN, M. D.
Rev. THEODORE EDSON.

Secretaries.

JAMES C. DUNN, Recording Secretary,
Rev. WILLIAM CROSWELL, Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer.

Mr. BENJAMIN HOWARD.

Directors.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, Rev. Thomas W. Coit,
Rev. Dr. Eaton, Rev. Alfred L. Baury,
Dr. John C. Warren, Messrs. Benjamin Howard,
Rev. Theodore Edson, James C. Dunn.
Rev. William Croswell,

Executive Committee.

Rev. George W. Doane, Messrs. Benjamin Howard,
Rev. Thomas W. Coit, Samuel H. Parker.
Rev. William Croswell,

MASSACHUSETTS EPISCOPAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

In presenting again to the public notice the claims of the Society, the *Executive Committee* feel that they have little more to do than to refer their brethren of the Church to the accompanying documents. Especially they ask attention to the statement of receipts and expenditures, for the last *five* years, prepared at their request, by the Society's Treasurer, Mr. Benjamin Howard. From that it will appear, that the receipts of the Society, having continually increased during that period, have amounted in the last year, by the good blessing of God upon their labors, to the sum of $1,749 31, while its expenditures for Missionary services, always increasing with its means, have been $1,445 16. To the country parishes, it will appear, that a liberal support has continued to be extended; not proportioned, indeed, to their wants, or to the will of the Executive Committee, but to the means entrusted to them by the members of the Church. The amount given in their behalf, this year, is nearly three times as much as the receipts from the auxiliaries; the latter amounting, the Committee regret to state, to but $203 66. Of the condition of the City Mission, ample information is afforded by the printed report of the Missionary. From a brief abstract of his labors, furnished by himself, at the request of the Committee, it appears, that since his appointment in 1829, he has visited *seven hundred and fifty*

families; admitted *four hundred* children to the Sunday School under his care; administered baptism to *one hundred and seven*; and presented for confirmation *forty* persons. The number of families now under his care is *two hundred and fifty*, the number of communicants *one hundred*, and of Sunday scholars, *one hundred and sixty-five*, or in average attendance, *seventy-five*. Such has been the public favor for this most interesting and efficient charity, that the whole cost of the mission to the Society, thus far, including rent of Chapel, fixtures, &c. &c. has been less than *four hundred* dollars. The Committee deem it in the highest degree desirable, that a place of worship, more convenient for the purpose, be permanently established as the "EPISCOPAL MISSIONARY CHAPEL." The Committee have the pleasure to state, that the embarrassments growing out of the first outlay for the publication of the Prayer Book, are entirely removed, and a certain prospect is opened of a considerable annual income from that source. Three editions, of 2500 copies, have been printed and are nearly disposed of. The circulation of the work is now so much increased, that a brisk demand may be counted upon for the future editions. Owning the plates, the Society are enabled to issue at a very low rate, the most beautiful and correct copy of the Prayer Book printed in this country, and secure a fair profit on the sales. It may be questioned whether a more efficient auxiliary to the Missionary enterprise could be enlisted. For the year to come, an enlarged field of usefulness lies open before the Society. Although several of the parishes hitherto aided, have withdrawn their claims, new calls for encouragement are heard. At Ashfield, Clappville, Northampton, Springfield, Sutton and Bridgewater, it is very desirable that the help-

ing hand of the Society should be extended. The very faithful servant of the Church at Hanover and Marshfield, though he urges no claims, deserves a portion of the Society's bounty. The Churches at Hopkinton and Marblehead are soon, it is hoped, to be revived. At the latter place, very favorable circumstances are said to offer; and a clergyman to officiate there, and at Salem, as assistant to the Bishop, would be eminently useful, not only to those places, but, by releasing the Bishop from a portion of his parochial care, to the Church at large; and might be sustained, it is believed, at a very moderate expense to the Society.

To accomplish this, and any other good work which their hand may find to do, the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE must rely, under God, on the bounty of their fellow Churchmen. They are but the servants of the Church, for Jesus' sake. It is their desire, that they may be found faithful; and that, as well in stirring up the pure minds of their brethren, by way of remembrance, as in appropriating and dispensing their contributions into the treasury of the Lord. It is to the interest created, and the influence exerted, by the annual public meeting, that they chiefly look for the benevolent impulse which is to carry them through the year. *Their fellow Churchmen are therefore earnestly invited to attend, on Monday evening next, the 17th inst., at the Missionary Chapel, 46, Washington street, to hear the proceedings of the past year, and to lend their aid in accomplishing the purposes of the next.* Remember, brethren of the Church, we ask not for ourselves, but for our kinsmen according to the flesh, the poor saints of the Saviour's household. We ask, not in our own name, but in the name of Him who giveth you all things richly to enjoy,

and whose sentence in the last day will be, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these, ye did it unto me." We seek, after all, not so much *yours*, as *you*, — the alms we ask of you, if given with a true Christian spirit, will return, in tenfold blessings, into your own bosoms. God grant it, for his mercies sake in Jesus Christ!

By the Executive Committee,

WILLIAM CROSWELL, *Secretary*.

BOSTON, October 15, 1831.

REPORT.

The Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society present their annual Report under circumstances of encouragement which call for devout thanksgiving to the Author of every good and perfect gift. Though it commemorates no planting of the Cross beyond the limits of Christendom, nor the triumph of the Gospel over the inhabitants of any unchristianized shore, they trust it will not on that account be deemed the less interesting and important. As a Missionary Institution its enterprises are directed to the perpetuation and enlargement of the Christian Church among the practical heathen at home; to extend its blessings to many in this City, who are living as much without God in the world, as the remote tribes who have never heard the sounds of salvation; to provide for the necessities of those feeble parishes in the country who would otherwise be cut off from access to sound religious instruction, and from the use of those divine ordinances, which we have been so long accustomed to venerate, as the means of grace and the sources of comfort. It is, in short, to do something in this Commonwealth to prevent the grievous calamity of a people destroyed for lack of knowledge; growing up without any principle of godliness to restrain the vicious propensities of nature; without any light from Heaven to guide their feet into the way of peace.

To objects of such infinite importance, the income of the Society, as the members are well aware, has never been, and perhaps never will be, at all adequate. But the Committee are happy to state that the funds, for purposes strictly Missionary, have been augmented much

beyond the receipts of any preceding year, chiefly in consequence of the growing liberality of our friends in Boston; the returns from most of the Auxiliary Associations having been unusually small. The Committee have been as attentive to the wants of the destitute country parishes as the state of the finances would allow, and it will be perceived, by the Treasurer's Report, that nearly *six hundred dollars* have been appropriated to *nine* churches out of the city.

Strenuous efforts have been made, since the last annual meeting in this place, to provide for the exigencies of the Society, by an increase of its funds. These efforts, though not successful to the extent that could have been desired, have yet been attended with some pleasing results. Under the auspices of the Executive Committee, a public meeting was held in November last, at the Episcopal Missionary Chapel, in this city; and the cause of the Society was pleaded, and its important objects forcibly illustrated, by various individuals. A large assembly was present on that exhilarating and instructive occasion: and a subscription being opened, and a collection made, FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS were in a few minutes raised for the purposes of the Society. Subsequent applications to the Episcopalians of the city have increased this sum to TEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

The printed statements, at that time issued by the Treasurer and Secretary, and extensively circulated among the Churches of this Commonwealth, have necessarily anticipated much of the information which is usually reserved for this report, and preclude the necessity of dwelling on the same details on this occasion. The particulars which have since come to the knowledge of the Committee from the aided parishes have generally

been as satisfactory, as the limited means, which we have had it in our power to employ, would allow us to expect. Their character and extent will be fully exemplified when the reports of the Missionaries come to be printed at large on the Journals of the Convention. The Committee regret to learn that discouragements of such a nature have arisen at Northampton, as to leave the laborer there no alternative but to retire; and unless a more adequate provision for the maintenance of our ministrations can be extended to this Church, the promising prospects under which it was erected must be entirely frustrated. May He with whom is the residue of the Spirit, put it into our hearts to carry on his work here! In most of the other stations, the measures adopted by the Society have been productive of the beneficial consequences anticipated by those, whose local information pointed out their expediency. The reports of the valuable Missionary at Lenox and Otis fully justify the expenditures of the Society in those parishes; and the new Church in the latter place, in consequence of the inducements held out by the Committee, is a noble testimony to the character of his labors. By a happy arrangement, the very efficient services of the Rev. Dr. Chapman, late of Kentucky, have been for a short time secured in the new parish of St. Stephen's, in Pittsfield, and its prospects are represented as animating and full of hope.

Accompanying this report is that of the Rev. Dr. Eaton, the Society's Missionary to the poor of the City for the year ending in May last. It will thereby be seen that his proceedings have kept pace with the expectations held out in the last report; and that the blessing of God has eminently rested on his way. It will show the encouragement which has attended his unwearied services,

and assiduous rounds of visitation, in drawing out the hearts of the people powerfully towards him. It will show what prayer and pains-taking can effect, and will exhibit the irresistible charm which lies in efficient and regular ministrations; — instant in season, and out of season, — and directed by a faithful devotion of the work of the ministry.

The Committee have the gratification to state, that, having found a rapid and ready sale for the cheaper copies of the Prayer Book, and their stock in this kind being exhausted, they have been induced to undertake a new impression, with the same regard to excellence and economy as before. The demand for this edition has been constantly increasing with its circulation; and its decided preference over any other of the same price in the market has tended to afford them much encouragement. The great objects of the Society cannot be better served, — nor, we may add, the spiritual advantage of a Christian community more effectually promoted, — than by putting them in possession, after the Book of Life, of the Book of Common Prayer; and we trust every member will be alive to the duty of making known and recommending this edition, as far as his influence may extend. No branch of the Society's operations seem to promise greater or more permanent utility than this, and it is a peculiar satisfaction to the members of the Committee, that they will be, for a long course of years to come, the instrument in the hands of Providence of disseminating that "form of sound words," which is one of the strongest bonds of Christian communion, and a bulwark of "the faith once delivered unto the saints."

Fully persuaded as they are that in prosecuting the objects of the Society they are accomplishing the best ends of patriotism, as well as of piety, the Executive Committee

again commend the cause to the benevolence of their brethren. The prejudices of two centuries are gradually giving way to the better views of extensive experience and calmer consideration; and nothing is necessary but a prudent and inoffensive perseverance on the part of the friends of the Church, and a simple dependence on divine aid, to make its progress triumphant. "In QUIETNESS, and in CONFIDENCE, shall be your strength."

"If our Church be," as it has been well said to be, "formed on the model of the primitive communities; if her doctrines are scriptural; her liturgy spiritual; her ceremonies sober and decent; if the superior wisdom, piety, and Christian temper of her founders are entitled to our reverence; and their zeal and sufferings in a cause so deeply interesting to ourselves demand our gratitude; if prudence requires us to adopt what is safe, and benevolence to diffuse what is excellent; if the most delightful of our associations urge us to connect ourselves with the spirits of departed greatness and virtue; if the character of the times calls for action, as well as circumspection; if the imperious wants of our friends and brethren prefer the strongest plea to our charities; if the reputation and interest of a Church in which we have been so tenderly cherished have any claim to our support; and we would see her pre-eminent among the tribes of our Israel, the first in rank, as she is in excellence; if in short we would wish the poor as well as the rich, future generations as well as distant lands, to partake of her blessings; then let us freely give of our time, our substance, our labors, our exertions, and our prayers, to the support of every institution, which is calculated to promote her interests, to make her 'the perfection of beauty, and the joy of the whole earth.'"

WILLIAM CROSWELL, *Secretary.*

CITY MISSIONARY'S REPORT

To the Executive Committee of the Society.

GENTLEMEN,

Next to the satisfaction arising from our own growth in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, is the gratification that springs from the life-giving and sanctifying influences of the Gospel among our fellow men, and from anticipating the period, when, in fulfilment of the sure word of prophecy, the people shall be all righteous, and the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of the Prince of Peace. In prosecuting the Mission among the poor of this City, which, two years since, you were pleased to confide to my care, though my success has fallen far below my wishes, still, through the blessing of Him, who alone can give the increase, I have been constantly cheered by the hope that my labor has not been altogether in vain. The following statement will exhibit the progress of the Mission during the past year, and enable you to judge how far it deserves the continued countenance and support of the Missionary Society.

MISSIONARY CHAPEL.

From the unsettled state of many of the poor, our congregation is constantly changing. A number of families and individuals, who formerly attended, have during the past year removed from the City. Their places, however, have been filled by others. The number of worshippers has gradually increased. In favorable weather, the Cha-

pel is well filled. Appearances of great seriousness and devotion continue to characterize our worshipping assemblies, and a growing interest is manifested in the services of the Church. The uniform deportment of the congregation is expressive of the sentiments — "It is good for us to be here," — "I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." That such are the actual sentiments of some, we have good reason to believe.

On the 18th of July, 6th Sunday after Trinity, agreeably to previous arrangements, the Bishop of the Diocese visited the Chapel, and administered the rite of Confirmation to forty persons. Several of the candidates were members of the highest class in the Sunday School. A more impressive and affecting spectacle I have seldom witnessed. To see old and young, parents and children, kneeling together at the holy altar, and receiving from our Reverend Father in God the imposition of hands, accompanied by the devout and comprehensive prayer, "Defend, O Lord, this thy servant with thy heavenly grace, that he may continue thine forever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until he come unto thy everlasting kingdom," can hardly fail to move the coldest heart, and leave an impression not easily to be effaced. During the past year, forty-one persons have been added to the number of communicants, making the whole number about an hundred. In the same period, there have been twenty-one marriages, forty-eight baptisms, and thirteen funerals.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The School which is held in the Missionary Chape continues to interest the feelings and animate the hopes of those to whom its management has been intrusted.

An hundred and ten new scholars have been admitted during the year, making the whole number that have been received since the commencement of the School, three hundred and sixty-five. The average attendance has been from seventy-five to eighty. There are now belonging to the School, as nearly as can be ascertained, an hundredand sixty-nine scholars, under the care of a Superintendent and ten teachers. The general deportment of the children has been in a high degree satisfactory, and the salutary effects of the instruction they have received are visible in the improved character and conduct of many.

The state of the School in Pitts Court may be learned from the following statement of its Superintendent:

"Since the annual report of the Superintendent made in October last, which exhibited nine teachers and forty-two scholars, three teachers and thirteen scholars have joined, and two teachers and twelve scholars have left the School, leaving now on the register ten teachers and forty-three scholars. The average attendance through the winter has been six teachers and twenty scholars. Several of the latter have left to go to the School of the parish, where their parents worship. We have made considerable exertion to increase the School, but without much success; it having been found in the visits of the teachers to the families living in the district, that almost every child of suitable age attended some School on Sunday. Thus, although we have little or no increase, we have the happiness to find we have lost no ground, and that the great and good cause in which we are engaged, by the blessing of God has well prospered, and the means of religious instruction been afforded to so large a portion of our poor population. Our library which is small, and not so well adapted to the capacity of the scholars as we

could wish, has been almost entirely exhausted by reading, and requires to be replenished with more suitable books."

"EDWARD CODMAN, *Superintendent.*"

On the first Sunday in July, a new School was organized in Bedford St. under encouraging circumstances. Of the progress of this School, the Superintendent has communicated the following information: —

"During the eleven months now elapsed, upwards of an hundred children, and two or three adult females, have joined this school. The number now actually connected with it is about sixty. The average attendance is from thirty to forty. The number of teachers usually present has been from six to eight females, and four males. We have frequently availed ourselves of the assistance of friends who have visited us, which assistance, we are happy to state, has always been cheerfully rendered, and, we trust, always gratefully received. The improvement and disposition to good order, manifested by the children generally, is encouraging.

"We have found the study of the Map of Palestine peculiarly interesting and instructive, not only to the scholars, but also to the teachers. The many interesting events in the history of our Saviour's life are more easily comprehended and better understood by having the places where they occurred, delineated to the eye. More interest is excited in relation to the subject of his preaching and miracles; and by this help the regular lessons are more easily explained.

"In order to stimulate the children to be prompt and regular at the appointed hour for opening the School, a short and interesting story is read by the Superintendent or Secretary, selected from one of the Library books.

The Children's Magazine has furnished many narratives, which have been read in this way with acceptance, and, we trust, not without spiritual advantage.

"As is usual with children, the scholars seem to enjoy the singing of Hymns, which is regularly practised; and in this branch there has been an evident improvement. Chanting has also received some attention; and we hope hereafter to be able to say more on the subject of this ancient and delightful mode of singing the praises of God.

"It gives me great pleasure to add that an excellent Library of books has been recently obtained for the use of our School, by means of a generous contribution taken up at the Rev. Mr. Potter's Lecture-room, and for which we take this opportunity to return our grateful acknowledgements."

"B. Howard, *Superintendent.*"

PERSEVERING EFFORTS OF THE LADIES.

Not to be weary in well doing is an injunction of the religion we profess. This precept has been happily exemplified by the Ladies, who from the beginning have manifested a lively interest in the success of the Mission. They continue, with unabated zeal, to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, and to cheer with their presence and encouragement, the abodes of poverty and suffering. The salutary influence of their labors is apparent in the ameliorated condition and brightening prospects of many families; and both parents and children rise up and call them blessed.

COMPARATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE MISSION.

On examining the Parochial Reports presented at the last Convention of the Church in this Commonwealth, it

will be seen, that in no parish in the State, one excepted, had so large a number been added to the Communion, as in the Chapel, and that with the exception of three parishes in this city, the Communicants at the Chapel exceed in number those of any other parish : that in one parish only, the number of baptisms exceeded those mentioned in this Report ; that the marriages in the Chapel have been more numerous than in any other parish ; and, with the exception of one, the funerals. It will also be observed that the Sunday Schools connected with the Mission, hold a respectable rank, as respects the number of children, with the other Sunday Schools in the State. In view of these facts, may we not thank God and take courage ?

Respectfully,

A. Eaton.

Boston, May, 1831.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Dr. *Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society in account with B. Howard, Treasurer.* Cr.

From June 16, 1830, to June 9, 1831.

Cash paid Rev. Dr. Eaton, on account of his services, from Easter 1829 to Easter 1830		150 00		By balance on hand		256 89
Do. balance, do.		200 00	350 00	By remittances from Auxiliaries, as follows:		
Do. two quarters rent, Chapel,			75 00	Bridgewater	9 00	
Do. Sexton's services			25 16	South Boston	29 12	
Do. Rev. Dr. Eaton on account of salary, from Easter 1830 to Easter 1831			400 00	Lowell	15 00	
				Newburyport	30 00	
				Quincy	9 50	
Do. Rev. L. D. B. Goodwin			50 00	Dedham	20 75	
Do. Rev. J. Muenscher			50 00	Lenox	4 29	
Do. Rev. L. Jones			50 00	Salem	40 00	
Do. Rev. A. Humphrey			50 00	Leicester	40 00	
Do. Rev. J. L. Blake			100 00	Northampton	6 00	203 66
Do. Pittsfield Church			50 00	Do. collected at Annual meeting		54 52
Do. Rev. B. C. C. Parker			200 00	Do. subscriptions for Dr. Eaton		242 00
Do. Settees, &c. M. Chapel			45 00	Do. Prayer Book, old subscriptions		50 00
Do. on account Grant & Daniel's bill, paper for Prayer Book			350 00	Do. Cash for subscriptions at the Missionary Chapel, and subsequently for general purposes	692 48	
Do. expense Annual Meeting,		5 00		Do. Cash at Missionary Chapel	29 22	
Collections		18 00		Do. by hand Rev. Mr. Haskins	15 27	736 97
Postages, &c.		68	23 68	Do. Prayer Book sales		450 16

Do. printing Reports, notices, advertisements, &c.	50 44	Reading Circle, Christ Church, Boston	12 00
Do. Sunday School in Pitts Court	15 00		
Do. do. in Bedford Street	20 74		
Balance on hand to new account	101 18		
	$2006 20		$2006 20
		By balance on hand	$101 18

Errors excepted.
Boston, June 9, 1831.

B. HOWARD,
Treasurer Mass. Episc. Miss. Society.

ABSTRACTS *from the Treasurer's Accounts during the five years last past, compiled by him, at the request of the Executive Committee, from the Accounts presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society in* 1827–28–29–30 *and* 31.

1826–7.

DR.			CR.		
Cash paid Missionaries for services in the several places hereinafter specified	607	24	Received from individuals and other sources for general purposes	300	73
Do. do. incidental expenses	17	66	Do. do. Auxiliary Societies	306	47
	624	90	Do. do. sales of Prayer Books	144	90
			Do. balance of disposable funds 163,50, less amount afterwards invested in permanent fund 155	8	50
				760	60

1827–8.

DR.			CR.		
Paid Missionaries as above	542	50	Received as above	304	76
Do. printing Reports &c.	35	20	Do. from Auxiliary Societies	310	60
Do. purchase of Prayer Books	39	15	Do. do. sales of Prayer Books	182	83
Do. incidental expenses	8	19	Do. from individuals to be applied to the support of a Missionary among the poor in this City	375	50
	625	04	Do. do. for the purchase of a set of stereotype plates for an octavo Prayer Book	501	50
				1675	19

1828–9.

DR.			CR.		
Paid Missionaries as above	640	00	Received as above	620	14
Do. for a set of stereotype and copper plates for Prayer Book	1126	41	Do. from Auxiliaries	453	90
Do. on account of paper for same, printing and binding 1000 copies	739	67	Do. do. sales of Prayer Books	200	00
			Do. from individuals on account of purchase of Prayer Book stereotype plates	126	00
Carried up.			Carried up.		

Do. towards the establishment of a Sunday School in this city not connected with any parish	30	00	Do. do. permanent fund invested in said plates	381	88
Do. Prayer Books for the use of the Missionary Chapel	10	42		1781	92
Do. printing Report &c.	21	45			
Do. incidental expenses	13	00			
	2580	95			

1829–30.

Dr.			Cr.		
Paid Missionaries as above	650	00	Received as above	527	20
Do. Rent and fixtures Missionary Chapel in this City	133	25	Do. from Auxiliary Societies	298	28
Do. on account of paper for and printing 1000 Prayer Books	412	67	Do. do. sales Prayer Books	150	00
Do. printing Report, notices, &c.	33	22	Do. do. individuals for support of the City Mission	180	50
Do. on account Sunday School	25	00		1155	98
Do. incidental expenses	31	77			
	1285	91			

1830–31.

Dr.			Cr.		
Paid Missionaries as above	1300	00	Received as above	803	49
Do. on account of paper for Prayer Book	350	00	Do. from Auxiliary Societies	203	66
Do. rent, &c. Missionary Chapel	145	16	Do. do. individuals for support of the City Mission	242	00
Do. printing Reports, notices &c.	50	44	Do. do. on account of the Prayer Book plates	50	00
Do. towards the support of 2 Sunday Schools as above described	35	74	Do. do. sales of Prayer Books	450	16
Do. incidental expenses	23	68		1749	31
	1905	02			

RECAPITULATION, *showing the total amount of Receipts and Expenditures during the five years before named, the amount paid to each Missionary, his place of location, with other items embodied in the preceding Abstract.*

DR.			CR.		
Paid Missionaries as follows,			Received from individuals and other sources for general purposes	2564	82
Rev. T. S. W. Mott, Marblehead	207	24	Do. from Auxiliary Societies viz.		
" W. Withington, Ashfield	125		Salem	314	80
" G. Leonard, Marblehead	37	50	Lenox and Otis	245	41
" B. C. Cutler, Hingham	70		Christ Ch. Boston	221	01
" J. Muenscher, Leicester	100		Newburyport	121	70
Do. do. Northampton	150		Lowell	117	50
" B. C. C. Parker, Lenox and Otis	675		Dedham	100	53
" J. Tappan, Hopkinton	85		Quincy	88	
Do. do. Bridgewater	50		South Boston	81	62
" C. Wolcott, Marshfield &c	215		Newton	75	
" J. L. Blake, South Boston	475		Bridgewater	64	60
" D. L. B. Goodwin, Sutton	250		Leicester	55	50
" J. West, Taunton	250		Marblehead	51	
" L. Jones, Leicester	50		Northampton	16	
" A. Humphrey, Blanford	50		Hanover	12	
Parish in Pittsfield	50		Ashfield	8	24
Rev. A. Eaton, Boston	900			1572	91
	3739	74	Do. for purchase of Stereotype Plates	677	50
			Do. Permanent fund invested in do.	381	88
				1059	38
Rent, fixtures &c. Missionary Chapel	288	83	Do from sales of Prayer Books, old account	327	73
Stereotype and copperplates Prayer Book	1126	41	Do. do. new account	800	16
Paper, printing and binding 2000 copies	1502	34	Do. for the support of the Boston mission	798	00
Sunday Schools	90	74			
Purchase of Prayer Books, old account	39	15			
Printing Reports, Notices &c.	140	31			
Incidental expenses	94	30			
Balance on hand	101	18			
	7123	00		7123	00

CONTRIBUTIONS *during the year ending in June* 1831, *have been received from the following persons for general purposes.*

Appleton W.	20 00	Fiske Mrs.	1 00
Amory J.	3 00	Foster S. H. Jr.	5 00
Adams Mrs.	1 00	Fullerton J.	20 00
Amee J.	1 00	Gilbert S.	5 00
Amory M.	5 00	Greene R.	3 00
Amory F. M.	2 00	Gardiner W. H.	1 00
Basset D.	4 00	Greene M.	3 00
Barker J. M.	1 00	Greene G.	50 00
Burr Mrs.	1 00	Greene H.	2 00
Bacon L. B.	1 00	Haskins Revd. G. F.	20 00
Badlam S.	3 00	Howard B.	10 00
Brinley Mrs.	10 00	Hibbard B.	1 00
Brown C.	5 00	Hale Doct.	1 00
Burroughs G.	5 00	Haskins J. W.	50
Byles Miss	50	Hall J. Jr.	5 00
Coffin M.	10 00	Henshaw C.	5 00
Croswell Revd. W.	20 00	Jewett J. H.	2 00
Cox E. N.	30 00	Jeffries Doct.	10 00
Cazenove C. J.	10 00	Keep Doct.	1 00
Cook Mrs.	1 00	Lloyd G. W.	3 00
Custis Mrs.	1 00	Louvrier Mr.	3 00
Codman E.	3 00	Little S. C.	5 00
Capen P.	2 00	Loring E.	5 00
Currier B. H.	2 00	Maxfield Mrs.	50
Cutler H. H.	2 00	Milnor Mrs.	2 00
Cunningham C.	5 00	Meldrum A.	2 00
Callahan C.	2 00	Nicholson S.	2 00
Callahan M.	3 00	Odin G.	10 00
Codman H.	10 00	Odin J.	2 00
Daniel O.	20 00	Parker M. S.	10 00
Doane S. B.	5 00	Parker T. D.	2 00
Daniel J.	2 00	Powell Mrs.	1 00
Daniel C.	1 00	Parker P.	3 00
Doane Revd. G. W.	50 00	Parker Mrs.	2 00
Doane Mrs.	5 00	Phillips T. W.	3 00
Dix S. A.	20 00	Paige J. W.	5 00
Edson J.	1 00	Prescott W. H.	5 00
Eaton Revd A.	3 00	Peters E. D.	50 00
Erving E. S.	1 00	Parker E.	20 00
Erving Mrs.	1 00	Parker S. H.	5 00
Emmons Mrs.	50	Ploembeck Mrs.	2 00
Eells E.	6 00	Parker R. G.	2 00
Frothingham G. W.	2 00	Richardson B. P.	10 00

Richardson Mrs.	5 00	Walter L.	5 00
Reynolds W. B.	20 00	Weld Mrs. J.	2 00
Sprague E.	6 00	White F. W.	5 00
Stimpson F. H.	5 00	Wolcott Mrs.	2 00
Smith Mrs.	5 00	Welles A.	3 00
Stimpson H. H.	2 00	Warren Doct.	20 00
Smith Mrs.	2 00	Yegen C.	3 00
Stark J.	5 00	A friend	2 00
Stimpson J.	3 00	Do.	1 00
Tuckerman E.	20 00	A mechanic	2 00
Thaxter A. W.	5 00	A lady	3 00
Townsend Doct.	3 00	A friend	2 00
Upham H.	10 00	Do.	50
Wilson Mrs.	1 00		

Towards the support of the City Missionary who labors among the poor, as follows :

Appleton W.	10 00	Robbins E. H.	10 00
Brinley G.	20 00	Stimson Mrs.	2 00
Burroughs Miss	10 00	Stimpson F. H.	10 00
Cox E. N.	5 00	Sears D.	10 00
Coffin Miss	10 00	Stimpson W. C.	10 00
Doane Rev. G. W.	10 00	Sohier W. H.	10 00
Doane Mrs.	10 00	Tuckerman E.	10 00
Greene G.	10 00	Tilden J.	20 00
Howard B.	10 00	Winthrop T. L.	10 00
Perkins Mrs.	40 00	Warren J. C.	10 00
Prescott W. H.	5 00		

The Society owed as follows, on 1st of June		To meet the opposite claims the Society owns Prayer Books on sale which may be valued at about	500
Rent for Miss'y. Chapel to that date	107 75		
Balance of Bill of paper for, and binding of Prayer Books	277	Cash on hand	101 18
Do. due Rev. Dr. Eaton for services to Easter 1831	100		